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for the present century has brought its own problems of road maintenance. The authors find that the appearance of the motor car has produced effects on public opinion and on administration parallel to those produced by the advent of new users of the roads three centuries ago. They conclude, therefore, by suggesting the administrative reforms which should be made to meet the new traffic conditions.

W. E. LUNT.

Cornell University.

WINTER, NEVIN O. *The Russian Empire of Today and Yesterday.* Pp. xvii, 487. Price, \$3.00. Boston: L. C. Page and Company, 1913.

Many books have been written about Russia but few of them give a comprehensive picture that is at once up-to-date and reliable. Russia is so large, her various sections so different, her people so diverse, that misconceptions concerning both the land and the people are easily gained. St. Petersburg is not Russia, neither is Kiev, nor the Jewish Pale. Russian officials and political leaders are not the Russian people. And yet to many, Russia has been represented by some restricted part or by a single element in its enormous population. National, as well as ethnic, unity is still lacking in the Empire of the Czar and Russia is most difficult of interpretation.

This book is descriptive of Russia rather than interpretive. Its purpose, evidently, is to picture the Russia of today in her various aspects and to tell briefly the story of her marvelous expansion. It does not rank as a critical study with such books as Drage's *Russian Affairs* or von Schierbrand's *Russia*, but it does what few other books have done for the English reader, that is, it gives a description of the whole land and people of European Russia as seen by a trained and experienced observer of national affairs.

The first part of the book consists of regional descriptions. After a chapter on Russia as a whole, the various larger divisions are treated, as Great Russia, Little Russia, the Land of the Cossacks, Poland and the Baltic Provinces, and so on. Then follow a series of chapters on social conditions, indicated by some of the chapter titles as follows: noble and Tchinovink, the peasants and their communes, the Jewish Pale and its unfortunates, education, religious forces, etc. A final group of chapters deals with historical and political topics, more especially those of recent date. Here are discussed Nihilism and revolution, autocracy and bureaucracy, the beginnings of representative government, etc. The author's conclusions are based upon his own observations carried on in all parts of European Russia, and his descriptions are not only fresh and vivid, but sane, accurate and unbiased. The book gives just what the general reader wants to know. It is attractively bound, fully illustrated and contains a bibliography and index. Although entitled "The Russian Empire," it does not treat of Siberia nor of the Russian Central Asian provinces.

G. B. ROORBACH.

University of Pennsylvania.